

III. REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ray in view of Labedz.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the system is packet-switched and the step of exhausting the transmission buffers as found in allowable claim 2. Since the Examiner considers these features allowable, claims 1 and 9 are allowable.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ray in view of Labedz and further in view of the Applicant's admitted prior art. Since the admitted prior art fails to show these features, claim 5 is allowable.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ray in view of Labedz and further in view of the Applicant's admitted prior art and Roobol. Since Roobol fails to show these features, claim 6 is allowable as is claim 7.

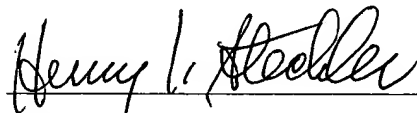
Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ray in view of Labedz and further in view of Kanerva. Since Kanerva fails to show these features, claim 8 is allowable.

Claims 10-23 have been previously held allowable.

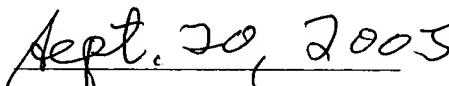
For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$450 is enclosed for a two-month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry F. Steckler



Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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